

VZCZCXRO8772
OO RUEHROV
DE RUEHKH #1401 2481522
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 051522Z SEP 07
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8417
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/CJTF HOA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 001401

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR AF A/S FRAZER, AF S/E NATSIOS AND AF/SPG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/04/2012

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [KPAO](#) [UN](#) [SU](#)

SUBJECT: SUDAN MOVES CLOSER TO RELEASE OF SULEIMAN JAMOUS

Classified By: CDA Alberto Fernandez, Reason: Sections 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (SBU) Both the Arabic and the English press on September 5 reported widely President Omar Al bahshir's remarks following his meeting with visiting UNSYG Ban Ki Moon on September 3, reiterating the Sudanese Government's intention to allow the release of former Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) humanitarian coordinator Suleiman Jamous. Long-opposed to Jamous' release from a UN field hospital in South Kordofan because of his links to the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and Hassan al Turabi's Popular Congress Party (PCP), Sudan altered its stance in the face of mounting international pressure for Jamous' release, including direct appeals on his behalf from S/E Natsios and UN Envoy Jan Eliasson.

¶2. (SBU) In July, Acting Special Representative of the Secretary General Taye Brooke-Zerihoun visited Jamous, who

SIPDIS

signed a commitment to remain outside Sudan and to contribute to the peace process as a condition of his release. On September 5, UN officials told Poloff that they were working with the Sudanese Government to complete the administrative steps necessary for Jamous' departure, including obtaining a passport and arranging for a flight to Kenya.

¶3. (C) Comment: Sudan's new commitment to allow Jamous' release illustrates a dramatic change in the country's 18-month stance on the issue, particularly in light of Bashir's personal--and public--pledge to Ban. The UNSYG's visit to Sudan has been much anticipated in Khartoum, and it seems likely that the regime will expedite Jamous' release as a tangible goodwill gesture. End comment.

FERNANDEZ